

LATE

If you did not submit written testimony *at least 24 hours* before today's hearing and would like to testify, please sign-up on this sheet.
Testifiers will be taken in the order signed in.

[illegible]

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/05/2015
Time: 02:15 PM
Location: 016
Committee: Senate Human Services and
Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 013 REQUESTING THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO
DETERMINE THE BEST PRACTICES FOR COLLECTING, STORING,
AND SHARING DATA ON HOMELESS YOUTH.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

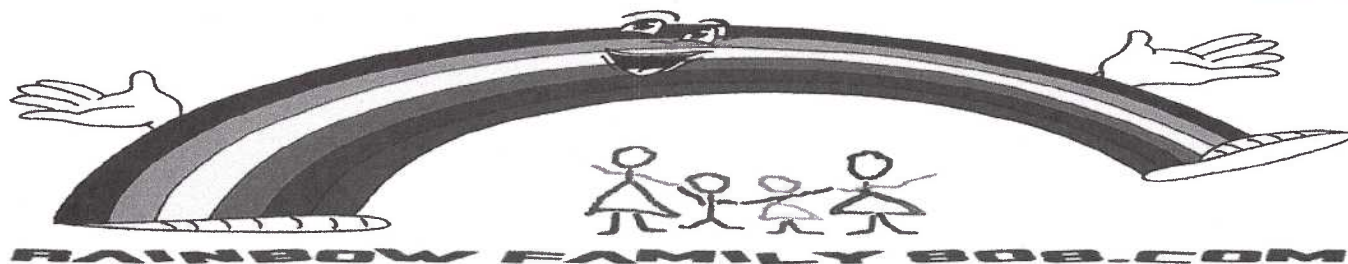
Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 13 which requests that the Interagency Council on Homelessness convene a working group to determine best practices for collecting data and maximize efforts across agencies to better identify and support homeless youth.

A coordinated comprehensive needs assessment and data will enable the Department to meaningfully contribute to the statewide plan and expand our support of over 2200 homeless children and youth.

Thank you for opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 13.

LATE



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March 4, 2015

TO: SENATE Human Services and Housing Committee

RE: SCR 13 Homeless Youth

IN Strong Support

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

As President of Rainbow Family 808, a group of Straight, LGBT families focused on peace and justice through education, we strongly support SCR 13 on behalf of all our families.

As a Social Worker and a mother, I find it appalling that Hawaii does NOT have a 24/7 Youth Shelter much less a 24/7 Drop In Center. How can Hawaii have multiple shelters for Male and Female Shelters and Family Shelters but NOTHING for our youth?

At present, only YO (Youth Outreach – Waikiki) has a four-day a week Drop In Center. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3pm to 6pm. More funds for an industrial kitchen, additional staff and a larger facility are direly needed to extend the outstanding service this Drop In Center provides our youth. Knowing that YO has been assisting youth on Oahu for 20+ years, it would be helpful that they be part of the Task Force on Youth Homelessness. They have data for Oahu that is very valuable.

Taking into consideration that our youth are resourceful and do travel from the neighbor islands, society needs to speed up help for them and all youth regardless of where they come from. Everyday our youth doesn't have assistance is a loss for them and the rest of society. We can't say our youth are our future when their families and society neglect them today.

We see SCR 13 as a start that needs to happen yesterday. Please Pass SCR 13 to return the care and protection needed for our youth at risk living on the street. Society needs to step in where parents violate or neglect the care of their children/Youth.

Mahalo nui loa

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW - President